

Virtually
ELKHART COUNTY SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2020
~Draft~

Present: Supervisors: *Tom Kercher, Alex Wait, Dale Leer, Dean Rink, Darrell Shover*; Staff: *Jim Hess, Lora Atkins, Todd Clark, Jenna Wait*; NRCS: *Wes Krug*; ISDA Support Specialist: *Heath Hurst*;

Absent: Associates: David Bontrager, Joe Brown, Brian Campbell, Gary Kaufman, Keith Miller; Purdue Extension: Jeff Burbrink, Robert Kelly; ISDA District Support Specialist: Jennifer Thum; Elkhart County Surveyor: Phil Barker.

The board meeting was called to order by Tom Kercher at 5:30 pm.

The October 19, 2020 board meeting minutes were approved on a motion by *Rink/Leer*

Agency Reports:

NRCS:

- *Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) - December 18 will be the application deadline.*
- *Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) - January 8 will be the application deadline.*
- *Wetland Reserve Easement Program (WRE) – Indiana is accepting partner applications for technical and financial assistance until November 30.*

ISDA:

11/17-18 ~ 2020 National Cover Crop Summit: Fall Edition

12/1 ~ SBOA Training

District Business:

*IASWCD Annual Conference Delegate Appointment: Tom Kercher and Darrell Shover.

*IASWCD Annual Conference: We opted to register all five of our board members for the annual conference, since we can watch it virtually from the office, and the price is \$50/ea. for the first 4 and the 5th one is free.

Leer/Rink

*IASWCD Resolutions: We have a resolution this concerning per diem, Dale Leer will present our resolution.

*IASWCD Annual Conference: Jenna will present our education splitting it with another SWCD.

*NACD Annual Meeting Presentation on SWAMP: The meeting is now going to be Virtual, Jim will present on our Swamp program where it started and where it is headed, and talk about the funding source he has 60 minutes, he would like the board members to also speak.

*Rule 5 Updates: Todd has been really busy working on reviewing 11 new projects. He has **3** outstanding in the City of Goshen. **5** outstanding in the City of Elkhart. **1** outstanding in Elkhart County, and also **1** outstanding for IDEM waiting for approval. We are closing out as many projects as we are getting in.

*SWAMP Projects and Updates: We are about to use up the \$300,000 that we were allotted for 2020, or pretty close to it if you know of anyone who has planted cover crops, but hasn't turned in an application have them contact our office.

Financial Business:

The vehicle log was signed.

The rubber stamp was not signed.

The monthly financial reports, claims and budgets were approved on a motion by *Wait/Leer*

Claims for the following were signed:

NACD (\$775.00 – NACD 2021 Dues); Mapping Solutions (\$1,025.00 – 2020 Plat Books 2nd box of Plat books); INterra Credit Union (\$347.34 – District 2020 IMN Class Supplies); INterra Credit Union (\$718.71 – County Office supplies/Desk calendars/Truck wash/Fuel/Sustenance/Project Wet/EEAI membership/Annual conf).

The board meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM *Leer/Shover*

Next Board Meeting ~ *Virtually*: December 21, 2020 - 5:30 pm
SWCD Office
59358 County Road 7 Elkhart, IN 46517

SWCD Board Chairman
Tom Kercher

SWCD Board Vice Chairman
Alex Wait

SWCD Board Member
Dale Leer

SWCD Board Member
Dean Rink

SWCD Board Member
Darrell Shover

Recording Secretary
Lora Atkins